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Message Text

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63
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 IO-11 EB-07

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /093 W
---------- 046421
R 081944Z EAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9643
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 03606

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CENTO, UK
SUBJECT: MARCH 16-18 CENTO ECONOMIC COMMITTEE MEETING

REF: (A) STATE 51386, (B) ANKARA 1558, (C) TEHRAN 2043

1. WE DISCUSSED SUBJECT MEETING AND ELEMENTS OF PRELIMINARY US POSITION. AS PROVIDED REFTEL A,WITH JOHN REDNALL. HEAD MIDDLE EAST AND MEDITERRANEAN DEPARTMENT, OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY (ODM). REDNALL WILL HEAD UKDEL TO MEETINQ. HE STATED THAT UK REPORTING ON IRANIAN POSITION VIS-A-VIS CENTO ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES DOES NOT SUGGEST ANY CHANQE WHICH MAY IMPINGE ON SUBJECT MEETING. RECENT OFFICIAL UK VISITORS TO TEHRAN HAVE RETURNED WITH MUCH MORE POSITIVE IMPRESSION THAN THAT REPORTED REFTELS. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT HE DOES NOT WISH TO IMPLY THAT EFFORTS BY IRAN TO REDUCE ITS FINANCIAL ROLE IN CENTO MAY NOT BE AFOOT.

2 ON QUESTION OF UK POSITION ON PROVISION OF SCIENTIFIC SECRETARY TO CENTO. REDNALL SAID THERE IS SOME FLEXIBILITY IN UK POSITION. HE INDICATED UK MIGHT BE WILLING TO MAKE A SECRETARY AVAILABLE ON
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TEMPORARY BASIS IF REGIONAL MEMBERS ARE INSISTENT ON NOT
ENLARGING SECRETARIAT STAFF TO ACCOMMODATE POSITION.

ARMSTRONG

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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